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University of Montana

NEWS RELEASE

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May 18, 1990

UM TO HONOR AWARD WINNERS AT MAY 31 BANQUET

MISSOULA --

The University of Montana will honor 14 individuals for outstanding contributions to the university at a banquet Wednesday, May 30. Awards will be presented to nine UM professors, three staff members, an administrator and a volunteer. They are:

\$2,500 BURLINGTON NORTHERN FACULTY ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS:

accounting Professor Teresa Beed and mathematics Professor Richard Billstein for teaching; chemistry Professor Richard Field for scholarship. The awards are based on accomplishments during the review period of July 1, 1988, to June 30, 1989.

Beed, on UM's faculty since 1980, helped launch the university's televised MBA program in Billings by teaching the state's first live, interactive television class in the fall of 1988. Business school Dean Larry Gianchetta credits her as the primary force behind the new venture's success, citing her exhaustive preparation for the course and the many presentations she has made since that time to share her experience and expertise in televised teaching.

She has published numerous articles, and has several projects in progress on the subject of teaching via interactive television. Past honors include the University of Montana Merit Award in 1986 and the UM Beta Alpha Psi Outstanding Teaching Award in 1984.

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Billstein, a mathematics education specialist, has taught at UM since 1969. Besides teaching and advising UM students, his activities during the review period include: directing "Integrating Mathematics Programs and Computers" (IMPACT), a program for public school teachers; presenting nine papers to Montana math educators; publishing four papers in journals; teaching two continuing education courses; and extensive service to local schools and the state Office of Public Instruction as a math and computer consultant.

He is a co-author of the widely used textbook "A Problem Solving Approach to Mathematics for Elementary Teachers," which is now in its fourth edition. He is Montana's government relations representative for the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. As member and chairman of NCTM's Instructional Issues Affairs Committee, he helped establish that organization's curriculum and evaluation standards.

Field, on UM's faculty since 1975, has earned an international reputation for his study of chemical reaction rates and mechanisms. During the review period, he co-wrote 11 papers published or accepted by leading journals. He collaborated with leading European scientists in three professional areas: experimental research, theoretical research and education/public service. He serves on the editorial advisory board of The Journal of Physical Chemistry.

The National Science Foundation has supported his research with grant funding for 15 years. He has lectured widely on his research, both in the United States and abroad. Past honors include the Merzhon Award from the Montana Academy of Sciences in 1985 and the UM

Distinguished Scholar Award in 1983.

\$1,000 DISTINGUISHED TEACHER AWARDS: English Professor Beverly Chin and geology Professor Donald Hyndman.

Since 1981, Chin has taught prospective teachers at UM and directed the Montana Writers' Project, an annual summer program to enhance the effectiveness of English teachers. Her effectiveness as a teacher is documented by the student evaluation committee. The committee's most recent report, from November 1989, found that 95 percent of Chin's students termed her an "excellent" teacher, while none rated her or her classes as less than "very good."

Her book "On Your Own: Writing Process" was published this year, and she served as primary script consultant for the instructional videotapes that accompany that textbook. She has made well over 100 presentations at professional meetings, and has served as a consultant for reading and writing programs in the United States and abroad. In 1985, she won the Burlington Northern Faculty Achievement Award for her work with the Montana Writers' Project.

Hyndman has been on the UM faculty since 1964, supervising graduate students on a wide variety of geology research projects. His 1972 textbook, "Petrology of Igneous and Metamorphic Rocks," now in its second edition, established him as "the world's most influential teacher of petrology," geology department Chairman Ian Lange said. In addition, he and UM geology Professor David Alt are co-authors of a popular series of roadside geology books that Lange said "probably command a broader audience than any other teaching

effort in the history of the university." He has also published numerous articles.

He has been an adjunct scientist for the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology since 1985. He received the UM Distinguished Scholar Award in 1985.

\$1,000 DISTINGUISHED SCHOLAR AWARDS: chemistry Professor Geoffrey Richards and forestry Professor Steven Running.

Richards came to Montana in 1985 as a teacher and director of the UM Wood Chemistry Laboratory. Within three years after his arrival at UM, he had published 20 research papers and one book chapter, and drawn \$782,000 in grant and contract funding. His research aims to increase the utility and value of renewable resources such as sugar, wood and wood byproducts.

He is a member of the Sugar Association's Sucrochemistry Advisory Council, and has served as a consultant for Eastman Kodak and other companies. Before coming to UM, he headed the chemistry and biochemistry department at James Cook University of North Queensland in Australia.

Running has taught forest ecophysiology at UM since 1973, and is one of 24 scientists worldwide selected for a research team on NASA's Earth Observing System. In 1989, he received a nearly \$3 million, 10-year grant to build satellite monitoring tools for NASA to study vegetation responses to the greenhouse effect. He is also working with the U.S. Forest Service to research the use of remote sensing and digital image analysis for assessing wildland fire severity.

In 1986-87, he spent six months on sabbatical with the Division of Forest Research in Canberra, Australia. He is widely published and has served on numerous national and international committees.

\$100 MOST INSPIRATIONAL FACULTY MEMBER AWARD: Humanities Professor Ulysses Doss, director and founder of UM's African-American Studies program, was chosen for this award by Silent Sentinel, an honor society that polls graduating seniors. He came to UM in 1968 from Chicago, where he worked in the civil rights movement with Martin Luther King Jr. He received the Standard Oil Teacher of the Year award in 1970, and is active in the Faculty Senate and numerous faculty committees.

\$100 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE AWARD: Philip Bain has been UM's registrar since 1974. In recommending Bain for the award, faculty members cited his work to make the university's upcoming transition to semesters as smooth as possible, and his service on the UM Commencement and Academic Standards and Curriculum committees. Philosophy Professor Thomas Huff credits Bain for exceptional cooperativeness, sensitivity to students' needs and willingness to cut through red tape.

\$100 Outstanding Academic Advising Award: Political science Professor Forest Grieves, a UM faculty member since 1969, is coordinator of the university's Soviet Studies minor and the M.A. program in political science. He advises undergraduates in political science and in studies that combine political science with history or economics. He also advises pre-law students and foreign students.

He specializes in international relations and comparative politics.

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER AWARDS: Dean Holm for fall 1989, Kathy Knudsen for winter 1990 and Irene Evers for spring 1990.

Holm, supervisor of the administrative systems and programming division of Computing and Information Services, retired in December after 25 years at UM. He was a founding member of the Staff Senate and served on the committee that wrote that organization's constitution and bylaws. More recently, he served on the CUFS, BANNER and Semester Transition committees.

Knudsen, who holds bachelor's and master's degrees from UM, has been a research specialist in the biological sciences department since 1978. She teaches lab techniques and has been an effective fund-raiser for the Evolutionary Genetics Lab. As a researcher, she has developed genetic profiles of various species and established new techniques to help accomplish research objectives. She also developed the trout-rearing facilities at UM's Yellow Bay Biological Station and improved the campus facilities.

Evers, assistant science librarian at the Mansfield Library, has worked at UM for 31 years. A native Montanan, she was born in Drummond and grew up in Hall. She started as a librarian at the forestry school, and moved to the Mansfield Library in 1976. She has attended many conferences and workshops to keep up-to-date in her profession, and is a master of computerized information searches, handling reference questions from faculty, students and staff.

OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEER AWARD: Albert G. Manuel of Alberton has

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helped with UM sports programs since he was a student in 1949, when he volunteered as a hurdle attendant at track meets, a duty he still performs. Since his graduation in 1952 with a bachelor's in health and physical education, he has become involved in other sports, keeping statistics for football and men's and women's basketball.

Sports Information Director Dave Guffey said Manuel never misses a home football game, and only misses home basketball games once a year, when he plays Santa Claus for Alberton children. A retired railroad worker, he has served on the Alberton City Council.

The awards banquet will be held in the University Center Ballroom, with no-host cocktails at 6 p.m. and award presentations following the 7 p.m. dinner. The event will also honor retired faculty and staff members. Tickets cost \$9 and are on sale through May 24 at the field house and University Center ticket offices.

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